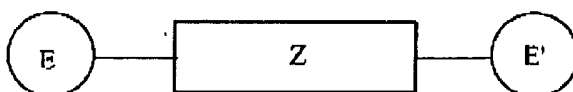


Amendments to the Claims:

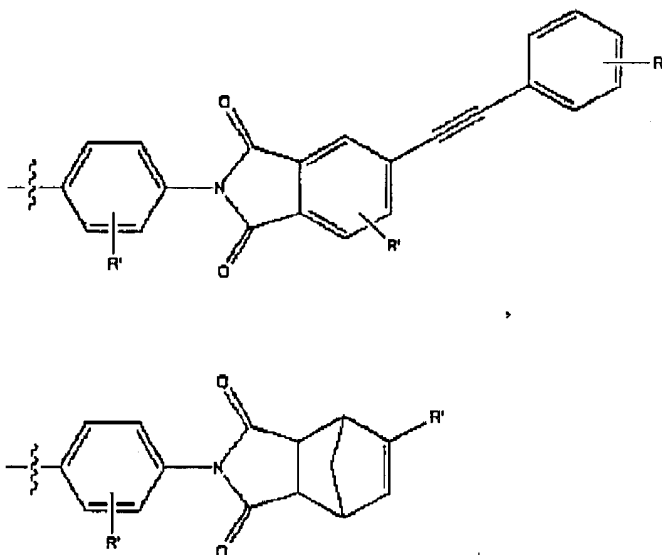
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

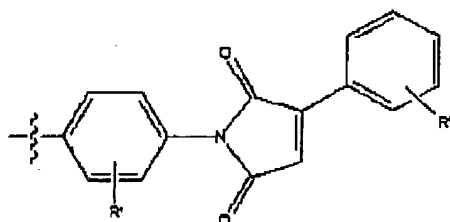
11. (Currently Amended) An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps ~~prepared by a melt condensation process,~~ comprising the general structure:



wherein Z is a liquid crystal backbone of the oligomer mixture selected from the group consisting of an ester, an ester-imide and an ester-amide, the liquid crystal backbone of the oligomer mixture being entirely aromatic in composition, wherein E and E' are selected from the group consisting of



, and



and wherein R' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl groups containing six or less carbon atoms, aryl groups containing less than ten carbon atoms, lower alkoxy groups containing six or less carbons, lower aryloxy groups containing ten or less carbon atoms, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, and iodine.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps as claimed in claim ~~11~~ 21, wherein E and E' are identical.

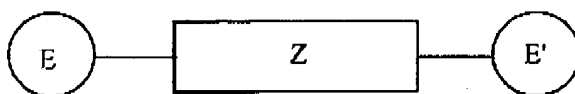
14. (Currently Amended) An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps as claimed in claim ~~11~~ 21, wherein the molecular weight range of the oligomers is between approximately 1000 and approximately 15,000 grams per mole.

15. (Currently Amended) An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps as claimed in claim ~~11~~ 21, wherein the melt ~~viscosity~~ viscosity of the oligomer mixture is between approximately 1 and approximately 250 poise at approximately 200° C to approximately 350° C.

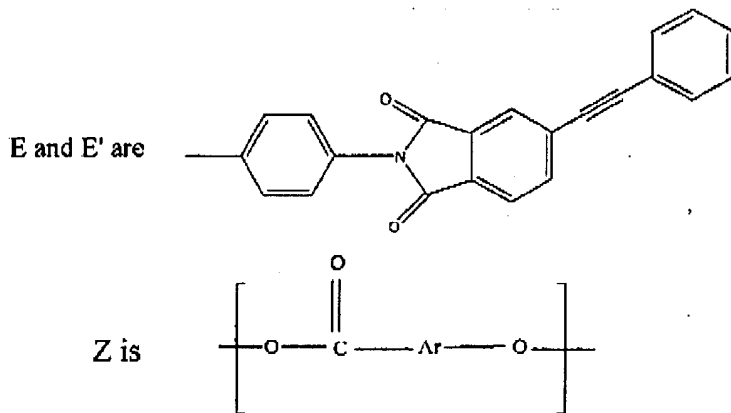
16. (Currently Amended) A polymer product comprising an oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps according to claim ~~11~~ 21 wherein said product is prepared by a process selected from the group consisting of melt processing, molding, fiber spinning, reactive injection molding (RIM), resin transfer molding (RTM), resin film injecting (RFI), power molding, induction molding, blow molding, thermo-forming, plasma spraying, and pultrusion molding.

17. (Previously Added) The polymer product of claim 16 wherein said product is a form selected from a group consisting of a fibre, filament, coating, film, lining, tube, pipe, sheath, sheet, and panel.

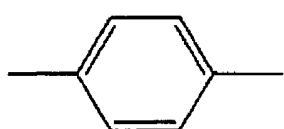
18. (Previously Added) An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps comprising the general structure



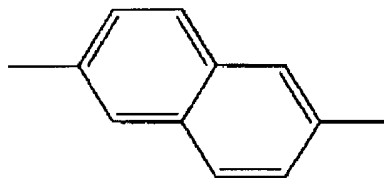
wherein



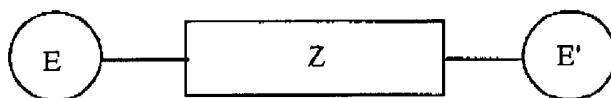
wherein Ar is



and

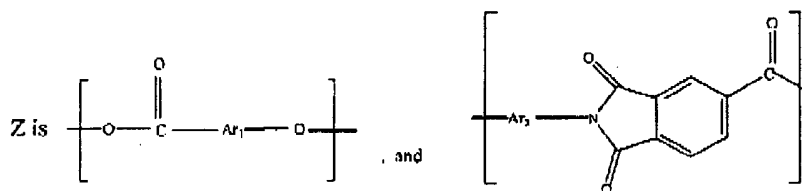
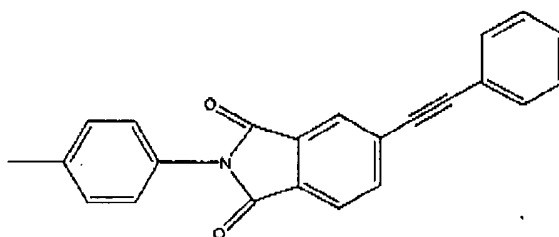


19. (Previously Added) An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps comprising the general structure

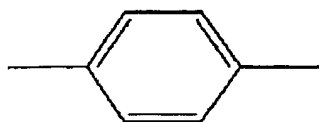


wherein

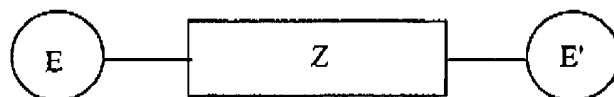
E and E' are



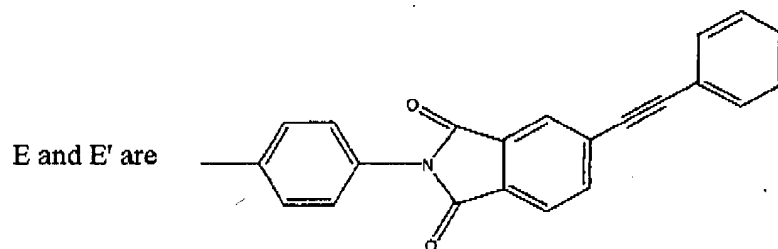
wherein Ar₁ and Ar₂ are



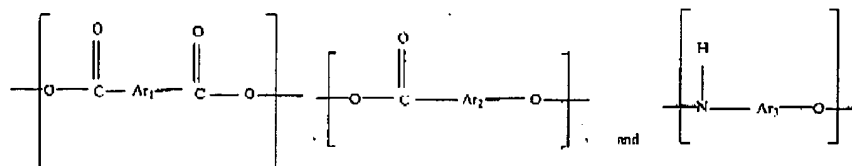
20. (Previously Added) An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps comprising the general structure



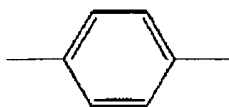
wherein



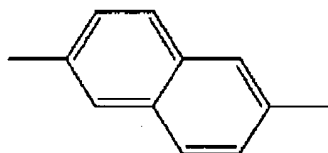
and Z is selected from the group consisting of



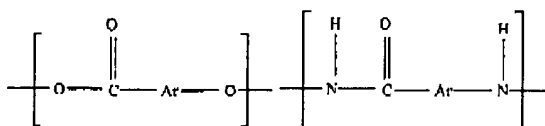
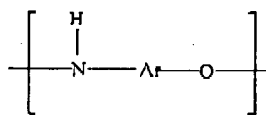
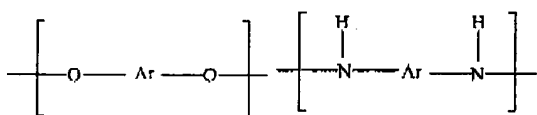
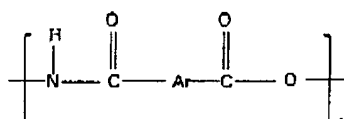
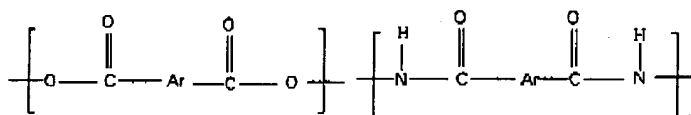
where Ar₁ and Ar₃ are

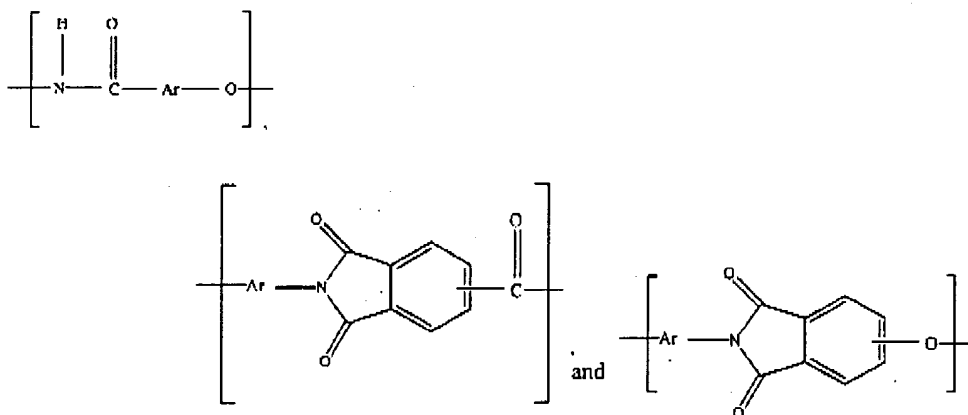


and Ar₂ is

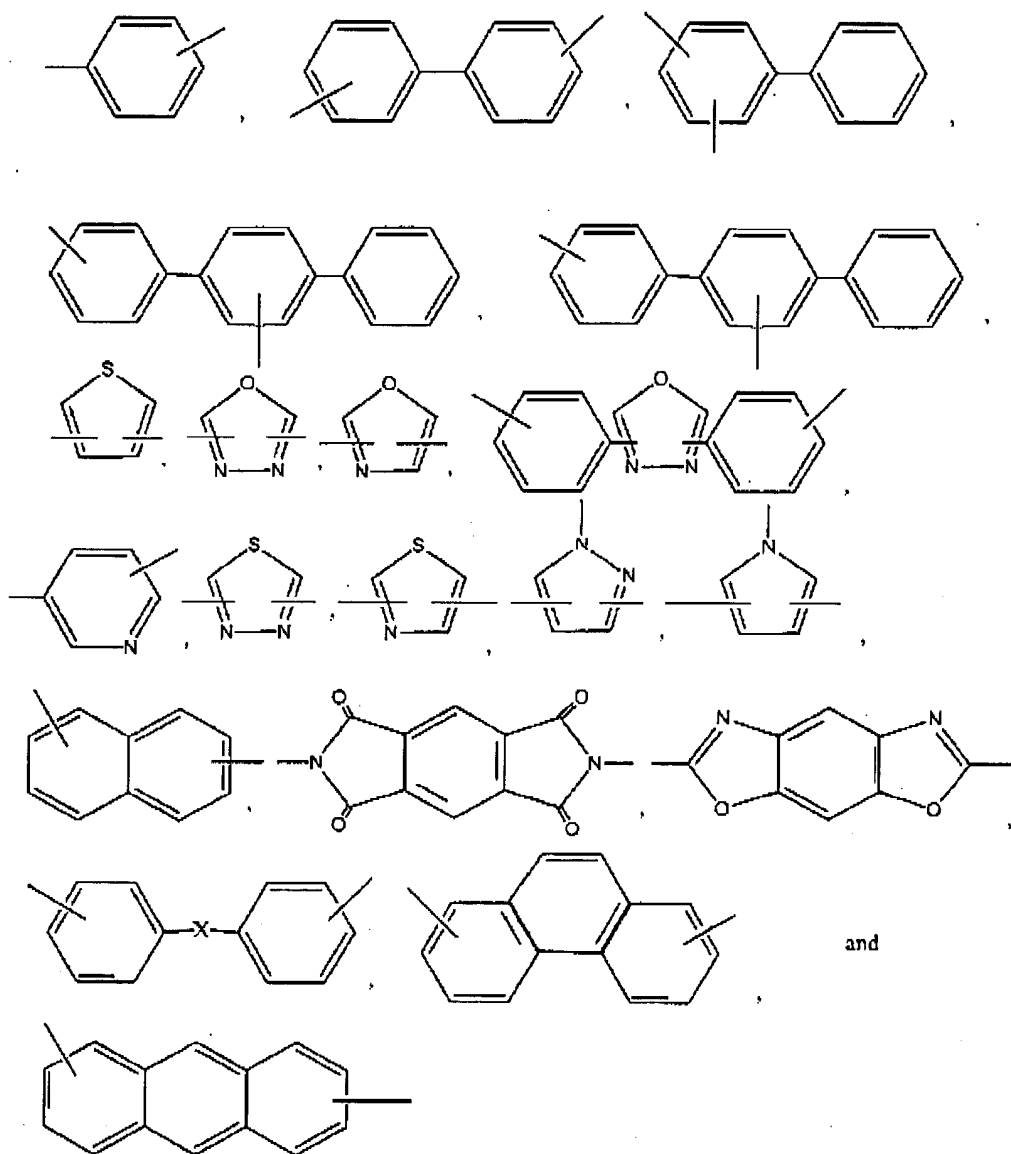


21. (New) An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps as claimed in claim 11, wherein Z is an entirely aromatic liquid crystal backbone of the oligomer mixture having at least one structural repeat unit selected from the group consisting of



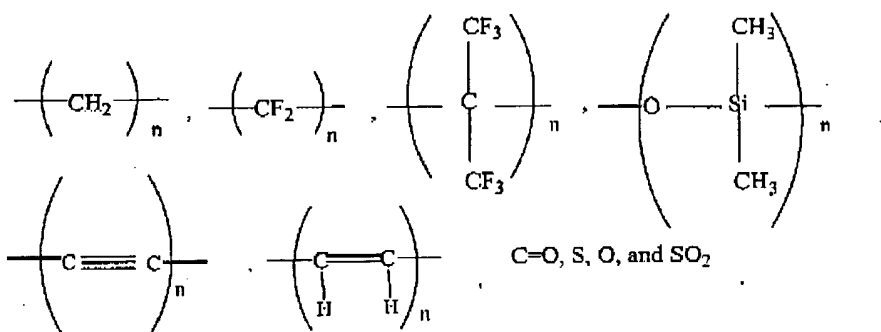


wherein Ar is selected from the group consisting of



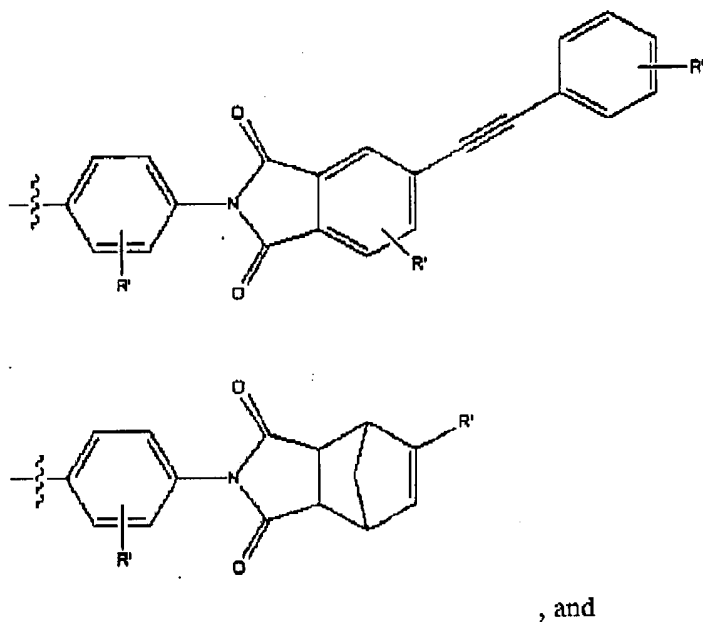
and

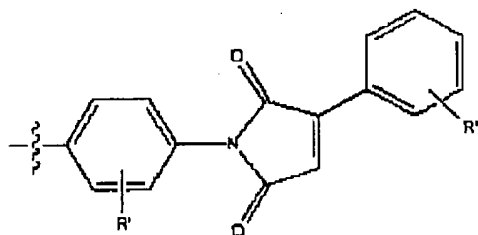
wherein X is selected from the group consisting of



wherein n is a number less than 500,

wherein E and E' are selected from the group consisting of





and wherein R' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl groups containing six or less carbon atoms, aryl groups containing less than ten carbon atoms, lower alkoxy groups containing six or less carbons, lower aryloxy groups containing ten or less carbon atoms, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, and iodine.